

**In the Claims:**

The current status of all claims is listed below and supercedes all previous lists of claims.

1-16. (cancelled).

17. (currently Amended) A method of selecting ~~an effective one or more~~ antisense oligonucleotide ~~sequence~~ sequences for inhibition of expression of a preselected target nucleic acid comprising:

providing a set of antisense oligonucleotide sequences 12 to 25 nucleotides in length which are complementary to a the preselected target nucleic acid sequence;

eliminating from the set sequences comprising one or more negative predictor sequence motif comprising 5'-GGGG-3';

eliminating from the set sequences comprising one or more negative predictor sequence motif comprising 5'-GGA-3';

selecting an antisense oligonucleotide sequence from a set of antisense oligonucleotide sequences; from the set one or more sequence, each comprising one or more positive predictor sequence motif, comprising

wherein the selected antisense oligonucleotide sequence activity enhancing 5'-CCAC-3'; and sequence motif; and no activity decreasing 5'-GGGG-3' and 5'-GGA-3' sequence motifs synthesizing one or more test antisense oligonucleotides having a selected sequence.

Claims 18 – 39 (canceled)

40. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~39~~ 17, wherein said test oligonucleotides are chimeric oligonucleotides.

41. (previously presented) The method of claim 40, wherein the test oligonucleotides each have at least one 2'-substituted nucleotide.

42. (currently amended) The method of claim 39 17, further comprising testing the test oligonucleotides in vitro for their ability to modulate the preselected target nucleic acid.